

United States Government
FY 02 Trade Capacity Building Assistance (\$US)
NICARAGUA

Activity Title	Activity Description	TCB Category	FY 02 Total
Commercial Agricultural Diversification	USAID/Nicaragua will continue to support small and medium size farmers and agribusiness in a series of trade related activities including: (1) market information gathering; (2) identification of market niches for local products; (3) development of appropriate business skills to successfully enter the broader market place; (4) establishment of business alliances; (5) introduction of high value agricultural options for which markets can be readily identified; (6) adoption of new production and marketing technologies; (7) assistance in the negotiation and delivery during the trade process. Funded and implemented by USAID/Nicaragua.	Export Promotion	325,000
		Business Services & Training	325,000
		Trade-Related Agriculture	650,000
		Activity Total	1,300,000
Human Capacity Development/ Higher Education & Training Systems	This program provides technical assistance to higher education workforce development and training activities in agriculture, agribusiness, trade and related areas. Funded by USAID and implemented by USDA/FAS.	Trade-Related Agriculture	26,111
National Seed Improvement Project	Under a Contract with DAI International, USAID/Nicaragua has provided assistance to farmers and local Nicaraguan authorities in eliminating seed trade barriers. The program also has provided significant assistance in the development of local improved seed market. Through local seed farmers associations the program has been able to promote the usage of improved seed throughout Nicaragua. The project has also contributes to foster an informed debate on transgenics and the benefit of biotechnologies. Funded and implemented by USAID/Nicaragua.	Agreement on TBTs	150,000
		Business Services & Training	90,000
		Trade-Related Agriculture	60,000
		Activity Total	300,000
PROALCA (I) - TRADE	The Trade & Investment component of the PROALCA activity aims to improve trade policies, including the further dismantling of tariff and non-tariff trade barriers, implementation of the WTO commitments, and advancing Central America's new model of outward-oriented, WTO-consistent, subregional economic integration; strengthen intellectual property rights protection through public education, assistance in updating the appropriate national legislation, and regional IPR conventions, specialized training for IPR registries, regional IPR conventions, and improve dispute resolution procedures. The activity supports the implementation of commitments made by Central American countries in bilateral investment treaties and IPR agreements with the United States. The grantee is SIECA. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP.	Agreement on SPS	2,460
		Agreement on TBTs	2,460
		Agreement on Customs Valuation Methods	28,700
		Agreement on Rules of Origin	2,460
		Agreement on CVMs	1,640
		Agreement on Safeguards	1,640
		General Agreement on Trade in Services	28,700
		Agreement on TRIPS	6,560
		Agreement on Dispute Settlement	2,460
		Agreement on TPRM	1,640
		Customs Operation & Administration	2,460
		Competition Policy & Foreign Investment	820

Source: USG Trade Capacity Building Database, <http://qesdb.cdie.org/tcb/index.html> , USAID Development Information Services.

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PROALCA (II) - ENERGY	PROALCA II is the follow-on activity. The Energy component promotes greater private sector investment in energy. As such, it improves the foreign investment incentives generally and builds up necessary institutional, legal and regulatory infrastructure for regional energy integration. USAID is aiding Central American governments in designing and developing of more open and competitive energy regimes which encourage private sector participation. Direct technical assistance and training focuses on the design and implementation of more liberalized and regulatory frameworks. The implementing partner is the PA Consulting Group. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP.	Activity Total	82,000
		Competition Policy & Foreign Investment	120,000
		Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord.	30,000
		Activity Total	150,000
PROALCA (II) - LABOR	PROALCA II is the follow-on activity. The Labor component supports efforts to improve the functioning of regional labor markets while strengthening the protection of core labor standards. Enhanced competitiveness in global markets requires that Central America improve the functioning of its labor markets while also strengthening of core labor standards. Improved labor-management relations are essential to achieve the total quality production required by a global marketplace. The following interventions will be promoted: (1) labor ministries' capacity will be enhanced; (2) competitiveness of the region's labor force will be increased; and (3) harmonization of labor laws and regulations in the region. The grantee is SIECA. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP.	Human Resources & Labor Standards	60,000
PROALCA (II) - TRADE	PROALCA II is the follow-on activity. Trade expansion requires that Central America increase its access to outside markets, and thereby the demand for its products, through the negotiation and implementation of reciprocal bilateral and multilateral free trade agreements. This means full compliance with the commitments made by each of the countries upon joining the WTO in 1995 and the yet-to-be-defined requirements under the FTAA. To implement these actions, trade negotiators and administrators need to be trained. Moreover, a much broader base of support will be needed to overcome protectionist objections and further reduce trade barriers. The grantee is SIECA. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP.	WTO Awareness	189,000
		Physical Infrastructure Development	63,000
		Activity Total	252,000

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Strengthening of Private Sector in the Formulation and Discussion of Agricultural Policies (PROVIA)	Under a Grant Agreement with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA) USAID/Nicaragua is helping to promote a sound macroeconomic and agricultural policy framework, one that is conducive of broader trade and investment flows in rural Nicaragua, where most poor live. The program is reviewing and making suggestions on policy options on: fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies; as well as the sectoral policy framework including agricultural commerce, technology, financing and forestry policy. The objective is to establish a sound policy environment that improve the competitiveness position of the Agricultural sector in Nicaragua. Under the FY02 extension the project will also strengthen the GON capacity to analyze trade policy constraints and competitiveness issues. Funded and implemented by USAID/Nicaragua.	Agreement on Agriculture	510,000
		Agreement on SPS	510,000
		Competition Policy & Foreign Investment	340,000
		Trade-Related Agriculture	340,000
		Activity Total	1,700,000
Technical Services for Small Farmers Program (TSSP)	Under a contract with CLUSA, USAID/Nicaragua is providing assistance to small farmers to enhance their competitive position in the export markets for coffee and sesame. Under this contract, financial resources were made available to small exporters for pre-export expenses. Also, technical assistance has been provided in contract negotiation techniques, market information, potential buyers' identification, etc. Further, assistance has been granted to improve the quality and homogenization of coffee product to guarantee better prices and in the organic certification process. Funded and implemented by USAID/Nicaragua.	Business Services & Training	360,000
		Trade-Related Agriculture	240,000
		Activity Total	600,000
FY02 Total USG Trade Capacity Building Assistance to NICARAGUA			4,470,111